AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1.   (original) A method for providing collaborative browsing of a communications network that allows multiple users, each with a browser for browsing the network, jointly and generally simultaneously to access objects within the network, the method comprising:

•   associating a browser companion with each of multiple users' respective browsers;

•   generating multiple categories of information related to the object accessed via a first user's browser; and

•   displaying the related information to (1) the first user and (2) the other of the multiple users via their respective browsers or associated browser companions.

2.   (original) A method according to claim 1 in which the multiple categories of information comprise a category selected from the group consisting of one or more: (a) links by which the user can access via the browser or browser companion other information within the network related to the object; (b) communities; and (c) products.

3.   (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of managing the first user's administrative rights to control or participate in a collaborative browsing session of the Internet with other of the multiple users.

4.   (original) A method according to claim 3 in which the managing step comprises providing the browser companion with an applet adapted to communicate with a first server that manages the collaborative browsing session.

5.   (original) A method according to claim 3 in which the first server is adapted to update the browser companions of users participating in the collaborative browsing session with

information concerning the designated leader, participants, invited users, kicked users, super users, or creators of the collaborative browsing session.

6.   (original) A method according to claim 1 in which the generating step comprises:

- forwarding to a Web server a descriptor of the object or action taken by the user to access the object; and

- comparing the descriptor with a database storing (a) a plurality of different descriptors and (b) the information related to such a descriptor.

7.   (currently amended) A system for allowing multiple users generally simultaneously to access objects hosted by a remote server over a network, the system comprising:

- an interface for coupling with a first browser, wherein the interface and first browser are loaded on a computer or microprocessor that is coupled to the network;

- a server that (1) receives from the interface the address of a first portion of the computer network the first browser accesses ~~and~~ (2) communicates information to the interface <u>and (3) generates multiple data categories related to the received address;</u>

- a display for showing information received at the interface, wherein the information comprises data associated with the first portion of the computer network; and

- a user interface for allowing a first user to enter commands for transmission to the server, wherein at least one of the commands comprises a command to initiate a session in which the interface causes at least a second browser to display to a second user information associated with the first user's actions.

8.   (original) A system according to claim 7 further comprising a session server adapted to manage a collaborative browsing session between at least the first and second users.

9.   (original) A system according to claim 8 in which the session server tracks the administrative privileged of the users participating in the collaborative browsing session.

10.   (original) A system for improving a user or group of user's Internet surfing experience comprising:

   • a computer, associated with at least one of the users and having a first browser for viewing the world wide Web;

   • a second browser coupled to the computer and adapted to communicate with a computer network comprising at least one server that supports the second browser, whereby the second browser is adapted to provide the server with tracking information concerning the object being displayed by the first browser; and

   • wherein the server, upon receipt of the tracking information, generates a list of related information for delivery to the first or second browser for display to the user.

11.   (original) A system according to claim 10 in which the tracking information comprises the user's URL and the server accesses a database of URLs or indicia representing URLs in order to draw from the database information the list.

12.   (original) A system according to claim 10 in which the second browser is adapted to allow users to post information to a Web page being viewed by a particular user.

13.   (original) A browser companion for use in accessing the Web or another computer network, the browser companion comprising:

   • a display for showing multiple categories of information related to an object accessed by a user of the browser companion;

- a first applet for interfacing with a first server in order to retrieve the categories of related information, wherein the first applet provides the first server with updates concerning the user's present location or actions;

- a second applet for providing to a second server in order to allow the user to browse the Web collaboratively with other users.

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (cancelled)

23. (cancelled)

24. (cancelled)

25. (cancelled)

26. (new) A system for providing collaborative browsing of a communications network that allows multiple users, each with a browser for browsing the network, jointly and generally simultaneously to access objects within the network, the system comprising a server for generating multiple categories of information related to the object accessed via a first user's browser and for communicating multiple categories of information to the one or more of the multiple users other than the first user via a browser or browser companion.

27. (new) A system according to claim 26, in which the multiple categories of information comprise a category selected from the group consisting of one or more: (a) links by

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which the user can access via the browser or browser companion other information within the network related to the object; (b) communities; and (c) products.

28.   (new) A system according to claim 26, and further comprising a distribution server for providing a browser companion.

29.   (new) A system according to claim 28, in which the browser companion can manage the first user's administrative rights to control or participate in a collaborative browsing session of the Internet with other of the multiple users.

30.   (new) A system according to claim 29, in which the browser companion is comprised of an applet adapted to communicate with a first server that manages the collaborative browsing session.

31.   (new) A system according to claim 27 wherein the server comprises a distribution server for providing a browser companion

32.   (new) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 1.

33.   (new) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 2.

34.   (new) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 3.

35.   (new) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 4.

36.   (new) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 5.

37.   (new) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 6.